United Nations A/62/271

General Assembly

Distr.: General
11 September 2007

Original: English

Sixty-second session
Item 55 (b) of the provisional agenda*
Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development: high-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

Proposed organization of work of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development

Note by the Secretary-General

I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 61/191 of 20 December 2006, requested the Secretary-General, inter alia, to prepare a note on the organization of work of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development. The present note is in response to that request.

2. The arrangements set out below have been formulated on the basis of the following:

(a) General Assembly resolution 59/293 of 27 May 2005, entitled "Modalities for the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development";

(b) General Assembly resolution 61/191, entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development";

(c) Letters dated 25 April, 20 June, 27 July and 7 September 2007 from the President of the General Assembly at its sixty-first session addressed to the permanent representatives of all States Members of the United Nations on the organization of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development and on the preparation of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus.

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II. Organizational arrangements

A. Dates and venue

3. The High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, comprising a series of plenary and informal meetings and interactive multi-stakeholder round tables, will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, 23 and 24 October 2007, at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The plenary meetings will be held in the General Assembly Hall, and the informal interactive dialogue will be held in a conference room to be announced. The venues of the multi-stakeholder round tables will also be announced at a later stage. All scheduled meetings will be announced in the *Journal of the United Nations*.

B. Overall theme

4. The overall theme of the High-level Dialogue will be "The Monterrey Consensus: status of implementation and tasks ahead".

C. Schedule of meetings and organization of work

5. The High-level Dialogue will consist of a series of plenary and informal meetings to constitute a policy dialogue on the overall theme stated above and six interactive multi-stakeholder round tables on the themes based on the six major thematic areas of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development.[1] The proposed programme of the High-level Dialogue is contained in the annex to the present note.

D. Plenary meetings

6. The plenary meetings, chaired by the President of the General Assembly, will be held on Tuesday, 23 October 2007, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. At these meetings, ministers and high-level officials attending the Dialogue will be able to make formal statements, on the understanding that the principle of precedence will be strictly applied. Each oral statement will be limited to five minutes, although this will not preclude the distribution of more extensive texts.

7. The plenary meeting on the morning of Tuesday, 23 October, will begin with the formal opening of the High-level Dialogue by the President of the General Assembly. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, as the Chairman of the United Nations Development Group, will be invited to make statements. At the opening the Assembly will be able to take up any remaining organizational matters.

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[1] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

8. A short plenary meeting will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday, 24 October, immediately following the conclusion of the informal interactive dialogue, in order to enable the President of the General Assembly to make a concluding statement and formally close the High-level Dialogue.

E. Multi-stakeholder round tables

9. On the morning of Wednesday, 24 October, six interactive multi-stakeholder round tables, divided into two sessions, each comprising three simultaneous round tables, will be held as outlined below.

10. The first set of three simultaneous round tables will be held on Wednesday, 24 October, from 10 a.m. to 11.30 a.m., on the following themes:

- Round table 1: "Mobilizing domestic financial resources for development";
- Round table 2: "Mobilizing international resources for development — foreign direct investment and other private flows";
- Round table 3: "International trade as an engine for development".

11. The second set of three simultaneous round tables will be held on Wednesday, 24 October, from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m., on the following themes:

- Round table 4: "Increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development";
- Round table 5: "External debt";
- Round table 6: "Addressing systemic issues — enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development".

12. Each round table will be chaired by two chairpersons to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly from among the ministers attending the High-level Dialogue, including those nominated by the regional groups. The President of the General Assembly may also invite heads of relevant institutional stakeholders to act as lead discussants in the round tables.

13. Each round table will normally be open to the participation of 35 representatives of Governments; seven representatives of observers, entities of the United Nations system and accredited institutional stakeholders; three representatives of accredited civil society organizations and three representatives of accredited business sector entities. The list of participants in the round tables will be established on a first-come, first-served basis. Each delegation may normally register for only one round table. Member States are encouraged to participate in the High-level Dialogue at the ministerial level. Each minister or head of delegation participating in the round tables may be accompanied by one adviser. Appropriate geographical balance will be sought in the composition of the round tables; to that end, the President of the General Assembly may request the assistance of the heads of regional groups.

F. Informal interactive dialogue

14. The informal interactive dialogue, chaired by the President of the General Assembly, will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday, 24 October, in the form of an informal meeting with the participation of all relevant stakeholders. It will focus on the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the link between financing for development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (see General Assembly resolution 55/2). The heads or representatives of relevant organizations of the United Nations system, regional and international intergovernmental organs that participated in the International Conference on Financing for Development, as well as representatives of regional development banks, civil society and the business sector, will be able to intervene.

15. To provide for a free-flowing, interactive discussion, no list of speakers will be established. The President of the General Assembly will call upon participants, in the order in which they signify their desire to speak, on the understanding that the principle of precedence will be strictly applied, to allow participation of ministers in attendance. The Chairpersons of the round tables and other participants may wish to refer to the outcomes of the discussions in the round tables. All participants will be invited to speak from their seats and will be requested to avoid reading from written statements.

III. Participants

A. Member States and observers

16. The High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, including the plenary and informal meetings, will be open to participation by Member States, the Holy See, in its capacity as Observer State, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, as well as intergovernmental organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and work of the General Assembly, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

B. Institutional stakeholders

17. Other relevant intergovernmental organizations that were accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development and its follow-up process, as well as relevant organizations of the United Nations system, may participate in the informal interactive dialogue and the multi-stakeholder round tables. Each round table will include seven representatives of observers, entities of the United Nations system and accredited intergovernmental organizations other than observers. Their distribution in the round tables will follow the practice established at the International Conference on Financing for Development.

C. Civil society and the business sector

18. Non-governmental organizations and business sector entities are invited to participate in the interactive round tables and informal meetings of the High-level

Dialogue, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly. Accreditation will be open to: (a) all non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; and (b) all non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that have been accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development and its follow-up process.

19. In addition, interested non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or were not accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development or its follow-up process may apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the accreditation procedure established during the International Conference. Online registration and accreditation forms are available at www.un-ngls.org/ffd/sign.php.

IV. Documentation

A. Pre-session documentation

20. The substantive documentation of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development will include the following:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development" (A/62/217);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development: the regional dimension" (A/62/190);

(c) Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (New York, 16 April 2007) (A/62/76-E/2007/55 and Corr.1);

(d) Summary of the hearings with representatives of civil society and the business sector.

B. Post-session documentation

21. The President of the General Assembly will prepare a summary of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, which will be issued as a document of the General Assembly and should provide an input to the preparatory process of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, to be held in Doha, Qatar, in the second half of 2008.

C. Inputs from all relevant stakeholders

22. Background information for the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, including inputs received from all relevant stakeholders, will be posted and updated, on a regular basis, on the website of the Financing for

Development Office of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat at www.un.org/esa/ffd.

V. Hearings with representatives of civil society and the business sector

23. Informal interactive hearings with representatives of civil society and the business sector, organized by the Secretariat, will be held as an input to the preparatory process of the High-level Dialogue. Hearings of business sector representatives will be held in the morning of Thursday, 11 October, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hearings of civil society representatives will be held in the morning of Monday, 22 October, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Secretariat will issue a summary of the hearings as an input to the High-level Dialogue. Background information on the hearings is available at www.un.org/esa/ffd.

VI. Media coverage

24. Press materials will be prepared by the Department of Public Information for journalists covering the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development. In addition, the documents counter in the media area will provide all Dialogue documents, as well as press releases on its plenary meetings, round tables and other events. They will also be made available electronically at www.un.org/esa/ffd.

25. The plenary and informal meetings of the whole, as well as press conferences, will be broadcast live into the media area. A programme of special media briefings and press conferences will be announced.

VII. Side events

26. A series of special events, including briefings and panel discussions on issues related to financing for development, is normally organized by Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and accredited institutional and non-institutional stakeholders for the participants in the High-level Dialogue. The calendar of those events will be made available at the Dialogue site and will also be posted at www.un.org/esa/ffd.

Annex

Proposed programme of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development (United Nations Headquarters, 23 and 24 October 2007)

Tuesday, 23 October

Plenary meeting

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Opening of the High-level Dialogue by the President of the General Assembly
	Organizational matters
	Statements by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization, the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme
	Statements by ministers and high-level officials

Plenary meeting

3-6 p.m.	Statements by ministers and high-level officials

Wednesday, 24 October

Multi-stakeholder round tables

10-11.30 a.m.	Round table 1: Mobilizing domestic financial resources for development
	Round table 2: Mobilizing international resources for development -- foreign direct investment and other private flows
	Round table 3: International trade as an engine for development
11.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Round table 4: Increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development
	Round table 5: External debt
	Round table 6: Addressing systemic issues — enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development

Informal interactive dialogue

3 p.m.-5.45 p.m.	Policy dialogue with the participation of all relevant stakeholders on the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the link between financing for development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration

Plenary meeting

5.45-6 p.m.	Concluding statement by the President of the General Assembly
	Closing of the High-level Dialogue